

**Claims**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of facilitating calls to objects, said method comprising:

determining an identifier of a method to be invoked on an object, said determining using at least a portion of a method signature corresponding to the method and generated from a typelib associated with the object; and

employing a proxy object, which implements the method identified by the identifier, to facilitate a call to the object.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the object is of an object model different from an object model of the method signature.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the object is a COM object and the method signature is written in Java.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the method signature is type-checkable at compile time.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining comprises using the method signature to look-up the identifier in a data structure, said data structure being separate from said method.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said employing comprises using said identifier and one or more arguments of said method signature in a call to a native method of the object, said native method performing the call to the object.

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7. A method of calling objects, said method comprising:

initiating a call from a calling program of one object model to an object of another object model, said initiating comprising calling a method of said object, said method corresponding to the one object model of the calling program, and said method having a method signature generated from a typelib associated with the object;

employing, by a proxy object in receipt of the initiated call, one or more arguments of said method signature and an identifier of the method to provide a call to a native method of said object; and

using the native method to call the object.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the identifier is separate from the method signature and the method.

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising determining the identifier, said determining using the method signature to look-up the identifier in a data structure separate from the method.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the method signature is type-checkable at compile time.

11. A system of facilitating calls to objects, said system comprising:

means for determining an identifier of a method to be invoked on an object, said means for determining comprising means for using at least a portion of a method signature corresponding to the method and generated from a typelib associated with the object; and

means for employing a proxy object, which implements the method identified by the identifier, to facilitate a call to the object.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the object is of an object model different from an object model of the method signature.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the object is a COM object and the method signature is written in Java.

14. The system of claim 11, wherein the method signature is type-checkable at compile time.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein said means for determining comprises means for using the method signature to look-up the identifier in a data structure, said data structure being separate from said method.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein said means for employing comprises means for using said identifier and one or more arguments of said method signature in a call to a native method of the object, said native method performing the call to the object.

17. A system of calling objects, said system comprising:

means for initiating a call from a calling program of one object model to an object of another object model, said means for initiating comprising means for calling a method of said object, said method corresponding to the one object model of the calling program, and said method having a method signature generated from a typelib associated with the object;

means for employing, by a proxy object in receipt of the initiated call, one or more arguments of said method signature and an identifier of the method to provide a call to a native method of said object; and

means for using the native method to call the object.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the identifier is separate from the method signature and the method.

19. The system of claim 17, wherein said proxy object is adapted to determine the identifier, said proxy object using the method signature to look-up the identifier in a data structure separate from the method.

20. The system of claim 17, wherein the method signature is type-checkable at compile time.

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21. At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of facilitating calls to objects, said method comprising:

determining an identifier of a method to be invoked on an object, said determining using at least a portion of a method signature corresponding to the method and generated from a typelib associated with the object; and

employing a proxy object, which implements the method identified by the identifier, to facilitate a call to the object.

22. The at least one program storage device of claim 21, wherein the object is of an object model different from an object model of the method signature.

23. The at least one program storage device of claim 22, wherein the object is a COM object and the method signature is written in Java.

24. The at least one program storage device of claim 21, wherein the method signature is type-checkable at compile time.

25. The at least one program storage device of claim 21, wherein said determining comprises using the method signature to look-up the identifier in a data structure, said data structure being separate from said method.

26. The at least one program storage device of claim 21, wherein said employing comprises using said identifier and one or more arguments of said method signature in a call to a native method of the object, said native method performing the call to the object.

27. At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of calling objects, said method comprising:

initiating a call from a calling program of one object model to an object of another object model, said initiating comprising calling a method of said object, said method corresponding to the one object model of the calling program, and said method having a method signature generated from a typelib associated with the object;

employing, by a proxy object in receipt of the initiated call, one or more arguments of said method signature and an identifier of the method to provide a call to a native method of said object; and

using the native method to call the object.

28. The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein the identifier is separate from the method signature and the method.

29. The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein said method further comprises determining the identifier, said determining using the method signature to look-up the identifier in a data structure separate from the method.

30. The at least one program storage device of claim 27, wherein the method signature is type-checkable at compile time.

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